JANUARY 1950

FIREMEN

FIFTY-FOURTH YEAR • NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

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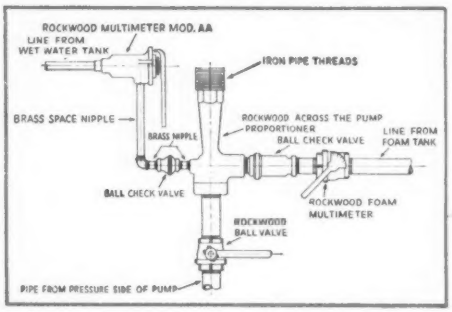
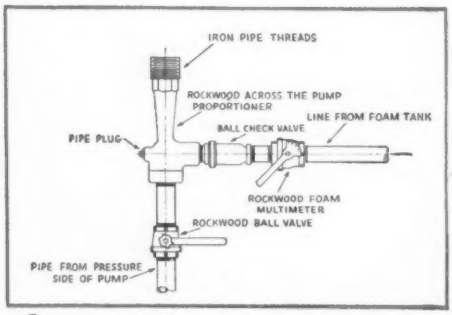
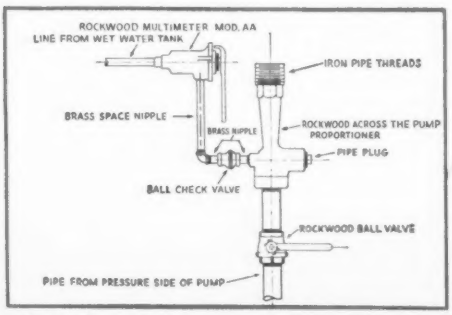
3 NEW ROCKWOOD AUTOMATIC PROPORTIONING UNITS FOR FEEDING FOAM LIQUID OR WETTING AGENTS INTO YOUR HOSE LINES



1. Rockwood Across Pump Proportioner Model Dual B for FOAM and WET



2. Rockwood Across Pump Proportioner Model Dual B for FOAM ONLY



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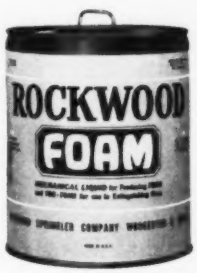

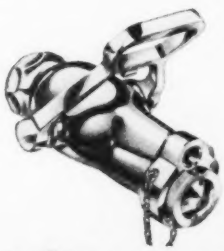

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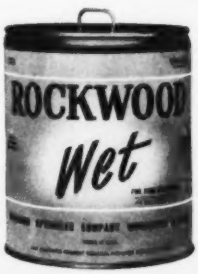

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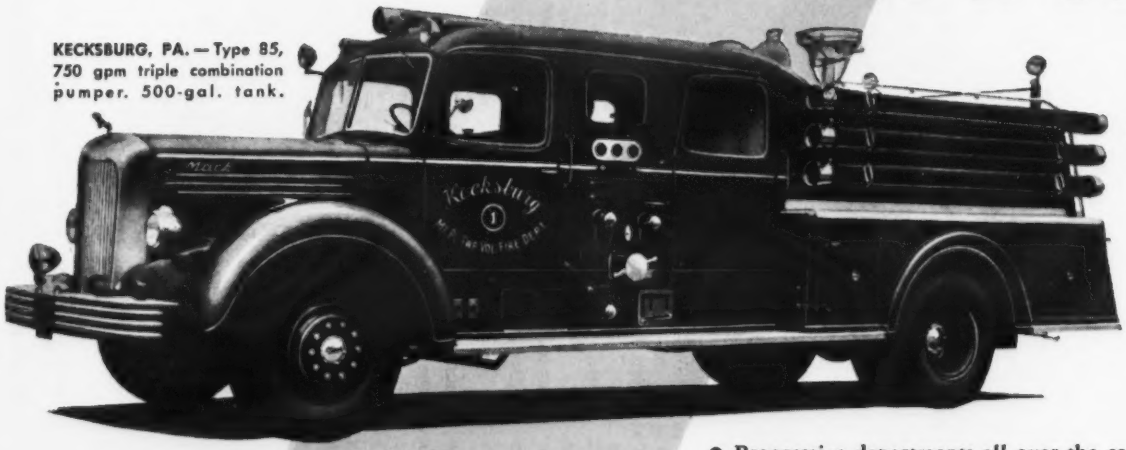

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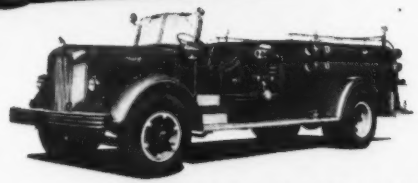

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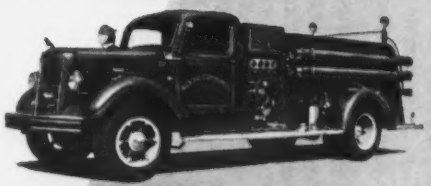

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Firemen

Volume 17 Number 1

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CHARLES S. MORGAN, ADVERTISING MANAGER

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The cover photo

Picture shows the destruction of the volunteer fire department station at Albion, Pa., last month. This is merely the latest in a long list of buildings housing the equipment of volunteer fire companies that have been destroyed by fire. In this instance the apparatus was lost and help from other communities had to be summoned.

What volunteer fire company will be the next to suffer destruction of its building and equipment by fire? Such a fire not only poses a heavy financial burden on the company and town or village, but there is great danger of a conflagration sweeping other buildings before sufficient outside help can be mobilized.

As has been pointed out many times in FIREMEN, such losses of fire houses or stations is entirely needless. It is the responsibility of every volunteer fire company to see that a fire detection system is provided in any fire station where firemen are not on duty constantly. The best arrangement is a system of fire alarm thermostats placed throughout the building and connected to a master fire alarm box. This box can be on the outside of the building and serve as a public fire alarm box. When a thermostat operates the box is actuated and the box number sounds on the air horn or whistle.

Another arrangement is to place fusible links near the heater or other points where a fire may start. When a link is melted a knife switch is operated starting the fire siren. Once the siren operates the firemen will be on the scene in time to rescue their apparatus and fight the fire. Of course, heating equipment should be maintained in A-1 condition, and should be installed in a cut-off room of fire retartant construction. Destruction of your station and apparatus by fire is not the happiest way to get on the cover of FIREMEN.

NFPA Progress

Seventeen years ago when FIREMEN magazine was first started, the thought was expressed by a number that there would not be sufficient interesting material to publish a monthly magazine of this type for firemen. In this publication the editors have difficulty in selecting the most interesting material, rather than any difficulty in finding material to publish.

It is gratifying that there is a steadily expanding interest in and knowledge of the whole broad field of fire protection and fire prevention. During the past decade alone the membership of our Association has increased from 4,600 to 12,750 and the distribution of our publications annually from 1,000,000 to approximately 4,500,000.

When you stop to think of it, fire affects every person and every type of property. No one is exempt from its hazard. To cope with the demand for and need for adequate technical standards to cover this vast field requires an ever expanding committee structure and constantly increased numbers of competent persons from the fields of fire fighting, fire insurance and industry, to help to develop these standards. Our Association now has some 70 committees with well over 1,000 members from all parts of the United States and Canada serving on them. Some of the committees added in recent years are those on Aviation, Dehydrators and Driers, Explosion Venting, Fire Casualty Statistics, Fire Gas Research, Fire Prevention Education in Elementary Schools, Firemen's Training, General Storage, Libraries, Museums and Historic Buildings, Magnesium, Places of Outdoor Assembly, and Wetting Agents. Just the recital of these names provides some indication of the scope of this committee activity.

The demand for popular material for a wide variety of uses is perhaps one of the most gratifying evidences of a more general acceptance by the public of the importance of fire protection and fire prevention. The NFPA is issuing material in a great variety of styles and forms for use in the schools for children at all grade levels, for use by women's organizations, by labor unions, and by a great variety of other organizations and individuals. We feel that this expanding demand for popular literature and information is a most healthy sign that the long and ofttimes discouraging campaign for a better understanding of the principles of fire safety is making headway. We in the NFPA Executive Office have perhaps a better appreciation of and understanding of the importance of the volunteer fire department service in this country and Canada than any other group. We recognize fully the great contributions so freely made by the thousands of volunteer firemen, not only in fire fighting but in expanding the knowledge of the citizens of their community in the principles of fire prevention. We hope that every reader of FIREMEN magazine will not hesitate to give constructive criticism and suggestions to us as to any way that we can function that will better reduce loss of life and destruction of property by fire. We cannot ever hope to effectively visit with all of our members in person, but we want every member and every reader to feel that they are a part of the great campaign for fire safety and that we will welcome their ideas and support.

Percy Bugbee General Manager
National Fire Protection Association

29 Barberton Firemen Hospitalized from Smoke in Basement Blaze

THE Barberton, Ohio, Fire Department narrowely escaped disaster on the afternoon of December 1, 1949, when 29 of 31 firemen called upon to fight a cellar fire in Simon's Jewelry Store ended by spending from 24 to 48 hours each in a hospital receiving treatment for carbon monozide gas poisoning and lung irritation. Meanwhile the city of Barberton was protected by a fire company from Akron, members of several nearby volunteer fire departments, and five remaining local firemen.

The blaze started in a basement storage room and, according to City Fire Inspector L. H. Culbertson, apparently started from defective wiring about which the fire department had complained following two recent inspections.

The alarm was received at 4:48 P.M. but is believed to have been delayed while employees made an effort to remove jewelry from the store. The flames burned through into the first floor of the two story brick walled structure having plank on timber floors. A safe fell through the first floor into the fire but preserved its contents. Aided by a good water supply the firemen brought the fire under control with a loss estimated at $50,000 of which only $10,000 was structural damage.

Because of the disability incurred by the firemen, Mayor T. L. Parker asked Safety Director Paul L. Mills to appoint a committee to investigate and make suggestions. The Committee consisted of Frederick S. Mallette, Industrial Hygienist and Toxicologist from the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company; Dr. Frank A. Fritz, Physician; and M. B. Fassnacht, Plant Protection Manager, Columbia Chemical Division, Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company.

This committee reported to Director Mills the following findings:

"1. As evidenced by the clinical and laboratory findings, it is apparent that large amounts of carbon monoxide and certain lung-irritating gases were present. With the exception of carbon monoxide, the presence of which is known by the blood examination, it is impossible to ascertain the exact composition of the lung-irritating gases. Laboratory experiments cannot duplicate the exact conditions which existed at the fire.

"2. The absence of fatalities this time tends to minimize the personal danger at this and other fires. This occurrence was a narrow escape from which the City of Barberton should profit. Steps must be taken to prevent similar episodes.

"3. The extent of the injury by gases to 29 of the 31 Barberton firemen involved in fighting this blaze indicates that the available respiratory protective equipment was inadequate in number and in type to provide proper safeguarding.

"Based upon these findings and a study of the conditions which might arise in similar fires, we respectfully submit the following recommendations:

"1. Gases dangerous to health and life are to be found at every fire. Therefore, it is essential that the proper number and type of approved respiratory protective equipment be provided for the Fire Department.

"2. That frequent inspection be made to assure that the respiratory protective equipment is in proper condition at all times, and is available at the scene of every fire. Instruction in the proper use and care of this equipment should be given to every fireman at frequent intervals to insure its proper use."

In an appendix the committee recommended that the following minimum of respiratory protective equipment be provided:

1. A dozen self-contained demand type fresh air masks to supplement one mask of this type already in service, with at least one additional air tank for each mask.
2. Thirty-four "All Service" canister filter type masks with an extra canister for each mask to supplement the 14 of these masks in the department.
3. Three smoke ejectors.
4. Four resuscitators with 6 small oxygen cylinders and 2 large oxygen cylinders.
5. Five colormetric carbon monoxide testers to indicate the amount of gas present and the proper type of mask to be worn. Also a dozen packages of the detector ampoules.
6. A pyrotannic carbon monoxide detector making possible blood examination by lay persons.

★ ★ ★

Radio Fire Inspection Patrol Successful in El Paso, Texas

THE Fire Department of El Paso, Texas, is very happy over the success obtained by its use of radio equipped fire companies on inspection patrol. Chief Joe H. Boone states:

"We have been using this method of company inspection since 1943 and find it very successful, not only from firemen's standpoint of learning construction, occupancy, and contents of different buildings in his district, but you can readily see the effect this has on the citizens themselves.

"A big red fire engine drives up to your place of business to inspect, employees and employer as well, know that the fire department is making an inspection and it is effective. We are going to have three-way radios in the near future and this will add to security angle of radio inspection."

Fire Marshal H. L. O'Hara is the only full time fire prevention officer in El Paso, but receives much assistance from the Assistant Chief and various district chiefs. Cooperation is also obtained from the Building Inspection Department, the Sanitary Department, and the Health Departments, who all have their own inspectors who take over trash and building complaints.

Marshal O'Hara reports:

"Our method of inspecting on radio patrol is working out satisfactorily. The Assistant Chief designates which companies are to go on inspection so that there will not be too many out of the houses at one time. The entire crew goes on the rig and each man takes his turn at listening to the radio. Each piece of apparatus stays in service by radio. This allows more men to make the inspection and learn the ins and outs of the different buildings so that they can more effectively fight fire, besides a better fire inspection can be made. The companies only inspect in their first run territories, and none have to make an excessively long run. In a few cases the apparatus was a few doors from the reported fires."

One interesting fact regarding the El Paso Fire Department is that the department carries adapters to Mexican hose thread and helps protect 380 acres of Mexican territory on the northern side of the Rio Grande. This territory is surrounded on three sides by the city of El Paso. In 1899 an agreement was made with Mexico whereby the United States Government would cut a channel at the neck of what is now called "Cordova Island" to straighten the Rio Grande and reduce flooding of land on both sides of the river. Twelve years ago another river straightening project was undertaken below the cut made in 1899 and a trade was made whereby the land south of the new channel was to be Mexican territory and that north was to be in the United States. The Mexicans would not discuss "Cordova Island" unless the United States recognized their claim to a tract which includes most of south El Paso and a large portion of the central business district. Mexico claimed that a century ago this area was south of the river. As the United States did not recognize this claim the "Cordova Island" territory remains Mexican.

Fire Protection in Montana

by Frank J. Sullivan, *Assistant Manager*, Montana Fire Rating Bureau

THE annual tragic losses of life and property from fire in the State of Montana emphasizes to the fire service the magnitude of the problems and task before it. There are only 15 paid or part-paid fire departments and over 140 volunteer fire departments in the State of Montana. Only a few departments have an apparatus and equipment replacement program that is adhered to. Many of the Montana fire departments find themselves with out-moded apparatus, a condition aggravated in part by the difficulty of getting apparatus during the recent war years. City councils or other governing boards should be urged to establish a continuous program for the retirement of old apparatus and its replacement. This is also applicable to hose and other items of fire department equipment, and would eliminate the need for excessive expenditures to replace entirely completely over-age equipment complements. The old apparatus should be retained in such quantity as needed for reserve use by off-shift, volunteers or to fill in for first line apparatus undergoing repairs. Every small department should maintain at least two pieces of fire apparatus.

All new fire apparatus should receive an acceptance test to assure proper engineering design and performance up to accepted standards. In Montana, the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific makes these tests as part of their service, without any cost to the city, town or fire district.

Intensive active support by citizens and public officials through a better understanding of the fire departments objectives, is a requisite to further reduction of fire losses. Failure to provide modern equipment and an adequate number of trained firemen to handle the apparatus and equipment available usually results in greater fire losses, and in many instances, cities in Montana have a tendency to depend upon outside aid to assist in even fires of moderate proportions. An increase in personnel of full-paid fire departments is necessary to maintain efficiency and protection of lives and property under adverse conditions.

Pre-fire planning surveys to develop fire fighting techniques for specific fire risks is vital for important fire fighting, as firemen cannot depend upon experience alone in fire fighting operations. Pre-fire planning of operations at important buildings in a city is almost a requisite. These precedures are entirely feasible and will help to prevent disastrous fires by uncovering conditions that make the fighting of fire impossible, and also greatly improve efficiency of operations.

Digested from an address before the 57th Annual Montana State Firemen's Convention.

No fire department in this State is fully self-sufficient under severe conflagration conditions or other major disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, and outside or mutual aid is essential and should be arranged for. Under the present statute in Montana, Chapter 29 of the Session Laws of 1949, a State Disaster Council was created for handling strict emergency situations outside the control of the jurisdiction of local governmental body. This action was taken on a state level to aid in the protection of the lives and property of our citizens, and in case of disaster or catastrophe is declared by a proclamation of the Governor.

Delayed alarms are an important factor in fire losses and show up conspicuously among the factors responsible for the largest fires. A delayed alarm is a part of almost every fire that gets out of control. Consequently, the facilities for fire alarms and for communication within a fire department are important. To get the best use of the communications available to the public for reporting fires, it is necessary to keep constantly before the public information regarding correct methods of alarm transmission. Such instructions will pay dividends in the matter of incorrect information leading to delayed alarm. Many delayed alarms also result from hesitancy on the part of the public to call the fire department immediately. This tendency must be counteracted by an intensive public education, and it should be mandatory that every fire should be reported to the department.

The importance of balancing fire prevention with fire fighting is gaining headway in Montana. Some fire departments still persist along the old lines of doing nothing but fighting fires with all the water that can be thrown and giving no thought at all to how the fire might have been prevented. The systematic control of fire hazards has been recognized by many cities, and such cities have been successful in preventing fires as testified by the records.

Intelligent and progressive fire department officers had been making inspections of buildings long before fire prevention work became an established part of their job. They realized that it is little short of folly to take their men out to fight fires blindly, without knowledge of the building or hazards in which they might have to fight a fire, or how the fire might spread, or without knowing the explosive or flammable nature of the materials located in the buildings. Progressive fire departments make a practice of having firemen inspect buildings for the purpose of familiarizing themselves with the conditions of the buildings should they be called upon to fight fires therein. The fire department has a fundamental reason for making inspections other than fire prevention.

Twenty years ago very few people were really sold on fire prevention, and a few cities were setting up fire prevention bureaus. Usually older firemen were used as inspectors who, because of age or disability, were considered unable to handle a job in fire fighting. That day is past.

Fire hazards are increasing almost daily. The use of new materials and new processes by manufacturers has increased the danger of fire by the introduction of nearly 100 special hazards, peculiar to our present era of advanced development. The use of flammable liquids in industrial plants introduce a serious life and fire hazard, and it is important to segregate processes involving such liquids and to provide reasonable safeguards.

Fire prevention activities should include granting permits, issuing licenses and certificates of approval for oil burners, dry cleaning plants, open fires; investigation of fires; and education and publicity. Permits, licenses and certificates covering occupancies, operations or processes are necessary to safeguard innocent persons from the inexperience and neglect of others. Inspections are usually necessary preliminary to issuing such documents. Investigation of fires is important if the lessons of the previous fires are to be applied to prevention. It is also a part of the apprehension of incendiaries. Education always plays its part not only in acquainting the public with hazards but also with ways and means of prevention.

In the larger cities in Montana, the number of building inspections made by the members of the fire departments or by inspectors in the Fire Prevention Bureaus, for the year 1948, were reported, as follows:

Anaconda (Each 90 days of entire business district)	
Billings	4,000
Bozeman	1,751

(*Continued on page 16*)

The Role of the Chamber of Commerce in Fire Prevention

by Harry F. Perlet, *Assistant Manager Insurance Department*
Chamber of Commerce of the United States of America

Mr. Perlet's message on this page should encourage local fire departments to enlist the interest and cooperation of their Chamber of Commerce in furthering local fire prevention and fire protection programs.

A QUESTION which is often asked by the professional fire protection man, and rightly so, is "What business does the Chamber of Commerce have meddling in fire prevention?" These people reason that we already have enough organizations especially equipped to deal with such problems without the interference of a chamber of commerce. The answer to this question can be found in the answers to these subsidiary questions.

First, "What is the interest of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States in fire prevention and how does it come into the picture?" A brief resume of the history of the National Fire Waste Council, which is sponsored by the National Chamber, should throw some light on this subject.

In 1922 the fire loss of the country was running at an all-time high and was mounting rapidly. The situation had reached alarming proportions and it was evident to city and state officials, as well as to businessmen and chamber of commerce executives, that something must be done. The Conference of Governors of the Middle Atlantic States put the matter on the agenda for its meeting that year and called upon the Chamber of Commerce of the United States to take the leadership in bringing together all of the national organizations which had any know-how or particular interest in the matter to launch a combined attack upon the problem. The result was the formation of the National Fire Waste Council, comprised of 37 national organizations. A few of these are: National Fire Protection Association, National Board of Fire Underwriters, National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, Western Actuarial Bureau, National Association of Insurance Agents, Federation of Mutual Insurance Companies, Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., the Boy Scouts and others.

The purpose of the Council has been to obtain a better coordination in getting their technical knowledge put into practical use in every community in the country. It was felt that the job was primarily a community problem. Every city and town has its own peculiar problems, its own vulnerable points, and the work of public education as to the causes of fires and how to avoid them was, and still is, purely a community task.

A plan was devised for the National Fire Waste Council to use the machinery of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States and its hundreds of affiliated local chambers of commerce to bring together the best possible committee of community leaders in each town to study the problem and then to get action in solving it.

While it is impossible to show how many fires have been prevented or how much loss avoided by the institution of this campaign, nevertheless, it is the considered opinion of qualified persons that this program has been of inestimable value in keeping down fire losses.

This is a national problem as well as a local one. In 1922, the estimated fire loss was $500 million. This was reduced to a low of about $315 million by 1942 but during the war years climbed steadily upwards to approximately $715 million in 1948. These are only the actual property losses and do not include the other monetary losses stemming from this property loss as well as the number of lives lost. This is a tremendous national economic loss well worthy of the attention of the National Chamber. In addition, through its 3137 affiliated local chambers and trade associations which are also intensely interested in the problem, the National Chamber not only has the incentive but the ideal organization to commence a "grass roots" movement; an intensive year-round campaign.

"WHY are local chambers of commerce interested in fire prevention and how do they fit into the picture?" It is important to remember first of all that the national fire loss of $715 million is the aggregate of the losses in the individual communities and these individual losses must be of considerable magnitude to add up to this over-all figure.

Fire losses have a definite bearing on the entire business life of a community. It has been estimated that approximately 46% of all businesses that have a fire never resume operations again. That is a terrific loss because not only is the business itself eliminated from the community but they are also potential customers for other businesses. Thus the local chamber of commerce has a definite, vital, pecuniary interest in fire prevention.

The local chamber affords the ideal vehicle for carrying out a fire prevention program on a local level. It is composed of the businessmen of the community and if these people are interested and actively participate in the program their influence will permeate the entire community. The records of the Inter-Chamber National Fire Waste Contest are replete with instances where the fire loss in a community has been substantially reduced after a period of participation in the contest. This gives concrete proof of the effectiveness of such an approach. Thus, we can see that the local chamber of commerce has a definite place in the fire prevention picture and that it in turn has a definite stake in fire prevention.

"GRANTING that a local chamber should be interested in fire protection in urban areas, why should it be interested in rural or agricultural areas which have no businessmen or other enterprises directly connected with the chamber?"

It is estimated that approximately one-third of the national fire loss or about $240,000,000 occurs on farms or in rural areas. In addition, the farmers alone had a total income in 1947 of approximately 18½ billion dollars and the great bulk of it was spent in the urban centers where the chambers of commerce operate. This brings into play the old axiom that what hurts the consumer hurts the business.

The important parts of this rural problem are concerned with education, adequate fire protection equipment and adequate water supplies. All of these projects can be undertaken within the scope of activity of a local chamber in much the same manner that they undertake similar projects under the present plan of fire prevention operation. An example of what is presently being done is illustrated by a recent report of the Forestry Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture which said in part, that forest fires were reduced from 200,799 in 1947 to 174,189 in 1948, attributed "in the main to the outstanding cooperation of advertising and business in alerting the American people to the danger of forest fires and the ways of preventing them. The forest fires of 1948 burned approximately 16,556,780 acres. This reduced the record of 1947 by 6,669,152 acres, or 29 percent. Less than half of 1 percent of the area under state and federal protection was burned, while nearly 100 million acres, or 14 percent of the unprotected area, was burned.

I believe that a new rural fire prevention contest which is proposed will be an opening attack on this problem and that all of our facilities can be pointed to the ultimate objective of reducing the losses to a minimum.

Progressive Volunteer Fire Service in Mack, Ohio

DURING the last World War, many communities throughout the United States became fire conscious. This was true of Mack, Ohio, near Cincinnati. Although the first fire equipment was secured purely as a war-time measure, the residents of Mack resolved to extend the protection afforded during the war by organizing a volunteer fire department to provide fire protection.

For a number of years, this protection had been furnished by the Cheviot, Ohio, fire department. The need of a local fire department became more urgent as many new houses and other structures were being built.

At the original meetings of the persons interested in the organization of a fire department, plans were laid to raise funds with which to purchase a fire house site and the necessary building materials. House to house solicitations were made. The funds so acquired were supplemented by receipts from card parties, picnics, and other entertainment.

After several years of persistent effort, enough money was accumulated to purchase a large lot fronting on two highways leading out of Mack, and also a substantial amount of building material. Some material was donated, some bought from dealers at cost, and the balance paid for at retail rates. The building labor cost was eliminated because the membership included men of various trades. These gave freely of their time and skills. On September 21, 1947, the new building was dedicated.

The fire house is of concrete block construction, 30 x 50 ft., with a basement under the rear half. The main floor provides space for two trucks, washroom, hose tower, meeting room, chief's office, three closets, and a bedroom with two beds. The basement contains the boiler room, shower room, kitchen, washroom, and a closet. The building is steam heated using oil for fuel.

THIS department serves a rapidly developing rural and semi-urban area of approximately 16 square miles, which contains nearly 900 families. Nearly all the houses are owner occupied. It also extends mutual aid to four surrounding townships, the city of Cheviot, and other communities whose fire departments are members of the Ohio and Indiana Firefighters Association.

All officers, as well as the firemen, serve on a voluntary basis with the exception of $1.00 per year which the township pays each member, making him eligible for State Workman's Compensation. The department carries blanket insurance protection on all members. Caps and badges are furnished by the department on a rental basis, while the individual member supplies his own uniform.

All members are provided with a book of rules and an operating manual. As additional rules are adopted or changes made, they are posted on a bulletin for the signature of each member. Later the bulletins are condensed and each member is given a copy to insert in his loose-leaf binder.

The department's personnel consists of fifty men on the active service list, a few honorary members, and an ever increasing list of applicants eager to become active firemen.

The fire fighting, personnel, and equipment are commanded by a chief, two assistant chiefs, two captains and four lieutenants. Fire drills are held weekly to keep all members at peak efficiency.

All work about the fire house is accomplished by assignment. Each officer is given the responsibility for some particular item. The officer then selects the required number of men to perform the task under his supervision. All assignments pertaining to the care of the fire house and surrounding grounds are made by the president of the organization. Those pertaining to fire fighting equipment are made by the chief; thus the shifting of responsibility is eliminated.

Two men are on duty every night from 8:00 P.M. to 6:00 A.M. Men who are employed at night are on duty during the day. All serve as their names appear on a rotating list. Comfortable sleeping quarters are provided in addition to interesting reading matter, radio, and other entertainment.

AS an auxiliary to the fire fighting force, a group was organized under the direction of one of the members who had experience in first aid and rescue work. The squad consists of a captain, three lieutenants and several firemen. The captain converted his personal car into a squad car at the start, but has since purchased a new car which he has completely equipped for first aid and rescue work. The squad car remains the personal property of the captain and he pays all operating expenses with the exception of automobile insurance. The chief has jurisdiction over squad personnel and operation of the equipment.

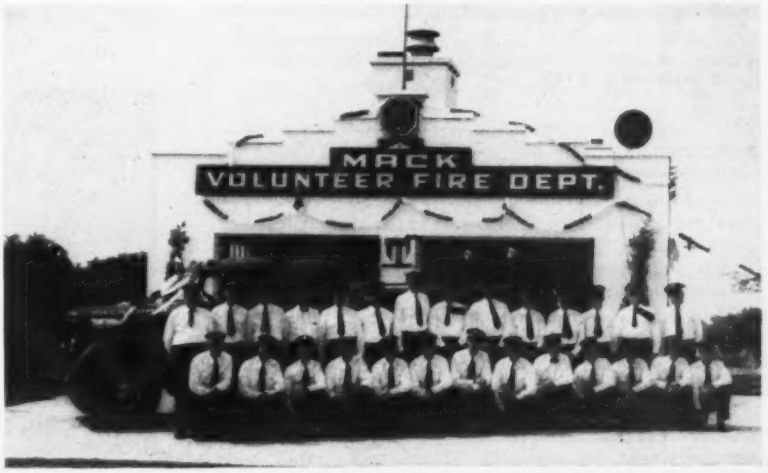
After several years of active service and training, the squad members have become quite skillful at their task. They have the latest devices obtainable for their service and have done a great amount of good among the residents of the community.

As a fire prevention service the department last year put on a program in four schools in the vicinity which included the showing of suitable movies, and an essay contest for the seventh and eighth grade pupils.

During the first year, the apparatus responded to a total of 33 fire alarms, and the first aid squad answered 87 calls.

The No. 1 truck is equipped with a multi-stage Barton-American midship mounted 500 gpm centrifugal pump, a 275 gal. booster tank, 800 ft. 2½-in. double jacketed hose, 300 ft. 1½-in. hose, and 275 ft. ¾-in. booster line. It carries two smoke masks, twelve helmets, one Ansul dry chemical extinguisher, one CO_2 extinguisher, several Indian pumps, a wide variety of fog and straight stream nozzles, rubber gloves and insulated

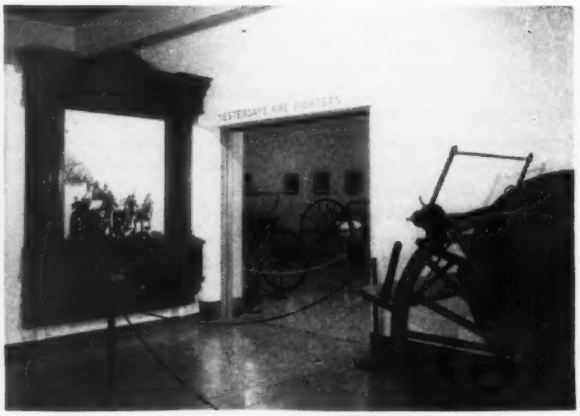
(Continued on page 23)



Members of the Mack Volunteer Fire Department are shown in front of their fire station which was dedicated September 21, 1947.

Yesterday's Fire Fighters

The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, displays a fire station of 1890's. Shown is a hand drawn hose reel, an 1895 telephone desk, and on the back wall an old visual fire alarm indicator on which fire alarm box numbers were received before the punch tape came into use.



The dramatic picture of the old steam pumper drawn by three horses is mounted in a carved frame which for many years stood in the office of the mayor of Chicago as a memorial to Chief Denis Joseph Swenie, who lost his life fighting a great stockyard fire in 1910.

Old Engine 17 of Chicago was one of the largest horse-drawn steamers of the Chicago department, and served at the Iroquois Theatre fire of 1903 and the stockyards fire of 1910.

THE Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago opened its latest exhibit, the "Fire Engine Room" during last Fire Prevention Week. The exhibit is sponsored by Marsh and McLennan Insurance Agency. The Museum has collected and restored typical pieces of fire fighting equipment, including a hand pumper of 100 years ago (see FIREMEN for August 1949, page 8), a hand drawn hose reel, and a steam pumper of the early 1900's.

The equipment is displayed in the replica of an old fashioned fire station with two apparatus doors. Ahead of the steam fire engine is the harness for a three-horse hitch. Also shown is a fire chief's old buggy.

Other interesting momentos in the exhibit are leather fire buckets, fire marks placed on buildings by fire insurance companies, fire hats, fire trumpets, lanterns and torches, belts, and other fire gear. A collection of Currier and Ives famous series "Life of a Fireman" is also displayed.

Visalia's Old No. 1 Has Interesting History

By Ross C. Parr

VISALIA'S old No. 1 ladder truck was a sporty Model T Ford touring car when she departed the factory in 1922, came to Visalia, near the entrance to Sequoia National Park, to transport the city nurse on her rounds. In 1924 city health functions were committed to the county department, and the nurse's vehicle was declared surplus. Visalia's firemen, then having but two automotive fire trucks, put the bee on the mayor for permission to convert the surplus Model T to a hook and ladder truck. Permission granted, in one week, No. 1 was chopped down to a one-seater and pulling a trailer, complete with ladder racks. Her red paint glistening, she became an official member of the Visalia fire department.

That first week she was called into action twice. Since then she has rolled in answer to more than 3,000 alarms, and perhaps holds the nation's record for carrying ladder laddies on details to liberate cats from trees.

The last six years No. 1 has been retired from first alarm response and her major hauls are for cat rescues and drill sessions. Only in emergencies is she activated for fire runs.

During Fire Prevention Week No. 1 really comes into her own. Firemen park her on a prominent main street spot with the legend, "I've done my part, now you do yours."

Ralph Noel, driver for platoon B of the Visalia Fire Department, demonstrates how firemen stuffily posed for pictures when truck No. 1 began her tour of duty in 1924.

Self Inspection Form for Industrial Plants

There has long been a need for an easy to use self inspection form for industrial properties. Accordingly, the NFPA recently issued the form shown in reduced size in the accompanying column. It is available in 8½ x 11 in. size, printed on both sides, at a cost of only $1.00 per 100 copies. The form can be used weekly or monthly by persons assigned to plant fire inspection. It is best to have an inspection at least once a month. It is a good idea to have different persons use the blank from time to time as different eyes are likely to spot some hazard that an inspector already familiar with the property may have overlooked.

The form should be a boon to a volunteer fire department having only a few industrial plants in its territory. Members can go through the plant with representatives of management and by means of this report form do a creditable job in locating common fire hazards and noting fire protection equipment. Of course, it is a good idea to make a rough sketch of the plant and any protective features. Such a sketch and the report form can be used in plant fire brigade and fire company drill sessions.

Combustible Fibreboards

New building materials of many kinds have in recent years increasingly supplanted older conventional construction materials. Many of these new materials are non-combustible, and their use tends to reduce the fire hazard, but certain combustible fibreboard have been responsible for a serious increase in fire hazard. It has been one of the main factors in the spread of fire in many large loss fires and large loss of life fires as the LaSalle Hotel fire, Hotel Canfield fire, Balantyne's Department store fire, and the St. Anthony Hospital fire. This is pointed out in an article by NFPA Technical Secretary Robert S. Moulton in the October 1949 NFPA Quarterly. This has been reprinted as a 16-page pamphlet (Q 43–8) entitled *Combustible Fibreboards*, 25c per copy.

Report from Jennings, Missouri

Chief A. Wiese and fellow officers of the Jennings, Missouri, Fire Department stand proudly beside new Kaiser sedan placed in service during Fire Prevention Week.

JENNINGS, Missouri, is a fast growing suburban city in St. Louis County, just northwest of the state's largest city. The fire department (member NFPA) is under Chief Al Wiese and boast two pumpers, a 750 gpm Seagrave and a 500 gpm job, housed in the attractive fire station shown above, designed to blend with the architecture of the community.

During Fire Prevention Week the department not only received the handsome new radio equipped Kaiser deluxe sedan for use in fire prevention inspection work and fire calls, but had an all-out fire prevention observance.

A committee of public and parochial school officials and business men planned the fire prevention program. Two thousand school children were taken by bus (50 at a time) to visit the fire station to see the fire fighting equipment and to hear talks by firemen. High school students saw fire prevention movies.

SELF-INSPECTION FORM FOR INDUSTRIAL PLANTS

This form should be filled out weekly or monthly by the persons assigned to make inspections on their plant or property. Such inspections should be made at least once a month and not always by the same person. In-pections weekly are not too frequent in most properties. At least once a year department or tenant-area managers should make the inspection.

Notations of what is being done about conditions reported should be inserted in the space headed "Corrections and Remarks" at the end of the form.

Turn in the report blank promptly to the manager of the plant.

If conditions are noted requiring immediate attention and you cannot otherwise secure action, consult the manager of the plant at once.

If it ever becomes necessary to shut off the water to the sprinkler system, notify the office of the plant (in advance, if possible).

Name of inspector ..... Date .....

GENERAL IMPRESSIONS (Fill out this part last, after inspection is completed):

CLEANLINESS AND ORDER (Check One):
- ☐ We have a very clean plant.
- ☐ There are a few places where things need to be cleaned up.
- ☐ Too many evidences of poor housekeeping.
- ☐ Boy, what a mess!

MAINTENANCE, LIGHTING AND EQUIPMENT (Check One):
- ☐ Everything is in apple-pie order.
- ☐ A few unsafe spots.
- ☐ Quite a number of installations unsafe or not properly maintained.
- ☐ Just good luck we do not have a bad fire.

FIRE PROTECTION (Check One):
- ☐ We have all the proper equipment, it is in good order, and everyone knows his or her fire duties.
- ☐ Some additional equipment needed.
- ☐ Better maintenance and instruction needed.
- ☐ Much equipment lacking, not properly maintained, or people in plant not instructed in its use.

CLEANLINESS AND ORDER.

1. Is there dirt or rubbish under benches, in closets, behind radiators, in elevator pits, or in any other part of the premises?
2. Are shipping and packing rooms thoroughly cleaned up at closing time?
3. Is there more packing material brought in than is needed for one day's use?
4. Note here any rooms or departments needing cleaning.

MAINTENANCE.

5. Do the watch-clocks or other checks on the watchmen show that they properly visit all parts of the plant and are otherwise on the job as required?
6. Are there broken windowpanes, plastering, partitions, flooring or other defects? If so, note locations.
7. Do piles of stock or other obstructions interfere with entering any part of a building and are stock room aisles unobstructed?

HEATING.

8. Are furnaces, heaters and their smokepipes and smokestacks installed with proper clearance to woodwork or other combustible material?
9. Is the fuel supply for heaters or appliances safely arranged?

★ ★ ★

LIGHTING AND EQUIPMENT.

10. Are there any open flame lights near combustible material?
11. Is there any electric wiring not well supported or protected from mechanical injury?
12. Are any fuses replaced by wire or otherwise defective?
13. Are oils, gasoline and other flammables, stored and handled in conformance with standard procedures?
14. Are air and exhaust ducts free of lint accumulations or flammable deposits and are dampers in order?

FIRE DOORS AND FIRE EXITS.

15. Are all fire doors unobstructed and not wedged open? Are automatic attachments in good condition?
16. Are fire exits unobstructed and emergency stairs in good repair?

FIRE EQUIPMENT.

17. Are all fire extinguishers and hand hose sets in place and in good condition?
18. Do all indicator valves show "open," and are all indicator posts oiled and in operating condition?
19. Are hydrants obstructed by snow, ice, stock or other material? Do they operate and drain satisfactorily?

FIRE PUMPS.

20. Have all fire pumps been tested within the week? Note here any defects shown by tests or conditions likely to interfere with pump operation.

TANKS AND RESERVOIRS.

21. Are all tanks full and are all indicators, valves and tank heating equipment in proper working order?

CITY WATER CONNECTION.

22. Is valve (on our premises) in connection to city water main wide open? ..... What is pressure on gage? ..... pounds.

AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM.

23. Are all sprinkler valves open ..... plainly marked? ..... easily accessible? .....
24. Are any sprinklers obstructed by partitions, high piled stock or other obstructions?
25. Are there any areas where sprinklers are needed?

CORRECTIONS AND REMARKS.

Fire Brigade of Kent County, England Operates Double Deck Mobile Control Unit

THE Kent County Fire Brigade (member NFPA) protects the County of Kent in England, an area extending from London to the coast in the Dover area. Headquarters is centrally located at Maidstone.

This County Fire Brigade is thus a large establishment and is under the direction of Chief Officer J. H. Fordham. There are 79 fire stations. Of these, four are manned entirely by full time permanent men, twenty-eight have full-time personnel and "part-time" or call men, and forty-seven are manned entirely by part-time or volunteer firemen. Deputy Chief Officer T. B. Goodman, and Fire Protection Officer S. A. Money are also members of NFPA.

According to data in the 1950 "Fire Protection and Accident Prevention Year Book" the Kent County Fire Brigade has 1884 members and thus is larger than all but five of the fire departments in the United States. There are 733 permanent men, 138 temporary (substitutes), 986 retained (call), and part-time or volunteer 27.

The brigade has 159 pieces of apparatus termed "appliances" in the British Fire Service. These include 20 motor pumpers, 38 combination pump-escapes carrying the big wheeled fire escape ladders in addition to their pumps, 10 turntable (aerial) ladders, 29 water tenders with pumps (tank trucks), 3 foam tenders, 14 salvage trucks (more than any U. S. fire department), 45 trailer pumps.

The Brigade has 79 miles of hose, 199 sets of self-contained breathing apparatus, 16 oxy-acetylene sets, 51 foam inductors and 168 foam branches (play pipes). There are 20,000 hydrants and 198 street fire alarm boxes. The annual cost of the Brigade is estimated at £437,570.

Galley with gas heater and water supply on upper deck of the mobile control unit.

BRITISH fire experience during the war emphasized the necessity for mobile control units to provide headquarters staff facilities for major fire fighting operations. Considering the large area and number of cities and towns in Kent County where major fires may take place, necessitating the coordination of many fire fighting units, such a control unit can be invaluable. It is also an excellent facility for the dissemination of fire prevention information.

FIRE magazine, the official organ of the British Fire Service, has the following to say about the control unit:

"Designed and produced by a versatility that is rapidly becoming proverbial, the unique mobile unit of Kent Fire Brigade has completed a five-weeks' tour of a number of villages in which the crew has advised the inhabitants how to prevent outbreaks of fire, and what to do if fire occurs. It is intended that these tours will be continued until all the more than 1,500 square miles of territory within the county have been covered.

"The first time that the public saw the unit it was doing duty as a fire station at the county's agricultural show at Maidstone this summer. Seven fire alarm boxes in the showgrounds were connected to a recorder in the unit's control room, while a Post Office (telephone) line was run between the unit and the brigade's headquarters.

"Throughout the appliance has given complete satisfaction and has proved a valuable adjunct to the brigade. Apart from doing duty as a fire station, or a platform from which the tenets of fire defence can be disseminated, the appliance can be used as a control unit at serious fires likely to last more than 24 hours, or for training purposes.

"Built in two decks on a re-conditioned bus chassis with a Leyland prime-mover, the appliance has a control room and an operations room on the lower deck, and a galley, and a combined rest and mess room on the upper. Soon, two-way short-wave radio apparatus will be added to the telephone communications, field, of GPO, in the control room with its county maps and information charts."

The story and photograph of the mobile control unit are furnished through courtesy of FIRE, *official journal of the British Fire Service.*

The control panel, fire alarm recorder, testing apparatus, telephone, and switch for call bells on both decks.

Northeastern Regional Conference of NFPA Held at Buffalo

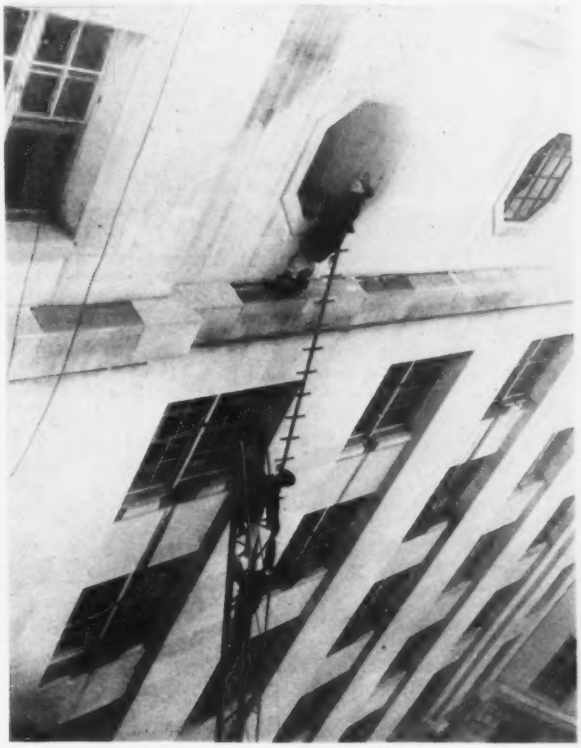
Former Secretary of Labor and now U. S. Civil Service Commissioner Frances Perkins, stole the show and hearts of those attending the NFPA regional conference November 1-2, with her warning that unless we become a nation of "fire cranks" the needless toll of fire deaths will continue to mount. Seated left to right are NFPA Technical Secretary Robert S. Moulton and NFPA Vice President Allen L. Cobb of Rochester, Chairman of the conference.

Chief Rudolph Swanson of Jamestown, N. Y., Vice President of the International Association of Fire Chiefs confers with Director Thomas W. Ryan, of the N. Y. State Division of Safety. Director Ryan described the state's fire safety program.

The Annual winter conference of the NFPA Fire Marshals Section met at Buffalo, November 2-3 and included a dinner at Niagara Falls, Ontario. Shown above, left to right are: Chief Leo Considine of the Buffalo Fire Prevention Bureau, Edwin L. Ballard of Buffalo, Chief John Shapton of Niagara Falls, Ont., Fire Marshal Edward W. Hall of Detroit, Fred Cairns, Vice Chairman, Niagara Parks Commission (speaker); Charles S. Morgan NFPA staff, Executive Secretary, Fire Marshals Section; William J. Scott, Ontario Fire Marshal.

Photos courtesy Ontario Fire Marshal Department

D. C. Firemen Attempt Rescue by Pompier from Atop 100 ft. Aerial

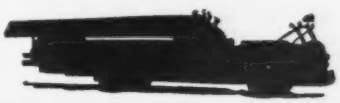


Washington Post photo

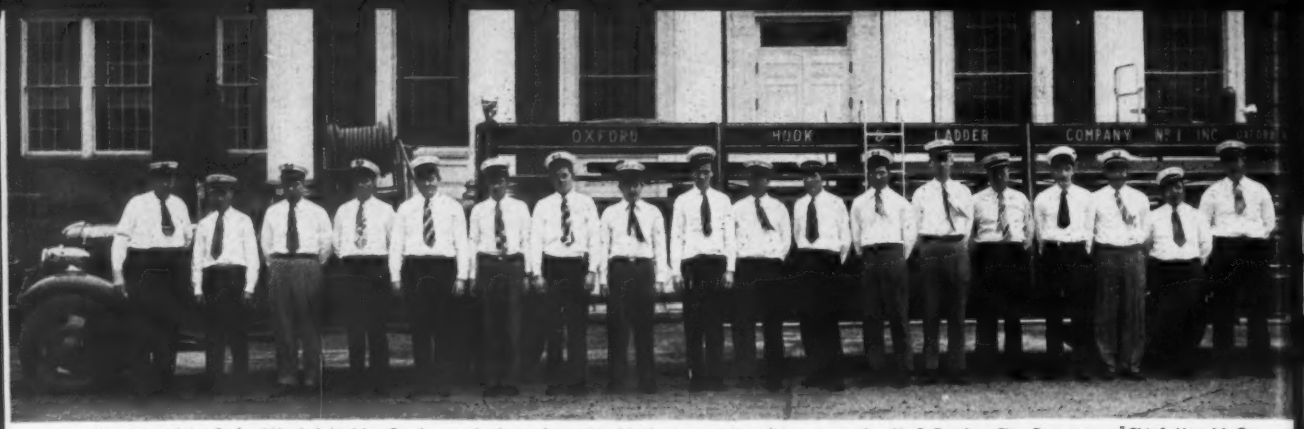
IN general, use of pompier ladders is confined to the drill tower but there are occasions when the highest aerial falls short or obstructions block placement of ground ladders, so that the pompier or scaling ladder is pressed into rescue duty.

The above photo was taken at Washington, D. C., on November 1, 1949, when an electrical breakdown resulted in a series of violent explosions on the 8th floor of the U. S. Post Office Department building, causing a number of injuries and trapping Building Superintendent Aaron Trail in a top floor room. A 100-ft. aerial attempting to reach Mr. Trail fell short by about ten feet. Accordingly firemen used the pompier to reach the 8th floor. However, heavy metal frames at the windows still barred the way. Firemen on the roof lowered a gas mask to the trapped man giving him protection until rescue crews reached him from inside.

Eight firemen and four civilians were injured in the explosions which caused $150,000 loss. While little fire followed the blasts, rescue efforts required a third alarm response bringing 12 engine and rescue companies with 27 pumping units, four 100-ft. aerials and a water tower.



(Left) Warren Y. Kimball, Editor, FIREMEN, receives award from William E. Hull of Hamburg, N. Y., for supporting campaign of Southwestern (N. Y.) Volunteer Firemen's Association to finance a dental clinic for the Volunteer Firemen's Home at Hudson, maintained by the Firemen's Association of the State of New York. Mr. Hull is chairman of the dental clinic fund campaign. Some 300 NFPA members and guests attended the regional conference at Buffalo and approximately the same number attended the Southeastern Regional Conference at Atlanta, Ga., during the latter part of November. This is part of the NFPA policy of holding conferences in various areas remote from the location of current NFPA annual meetings. The last annual meeting was in San Francisco and the 1950 NFPA annual meeting will be held at Atlantic City at the Haddon Hall Hotel, May 15-18. The 1951 annual meeting is scheduled for Detroit.



Members of the Oxford Hook & Ladder Co., Inc., and others who assisted in the construction of the new trailer: H. C. Bartlett, Fire Department Chief; Harold Gray, 1st Lieutenant of the Company; Stanley LeSeur and Dempt Gardner of Norwich; Albert Ross, 2nd assistant chief of the Dept.; Clifford Ross, Clifton Ross, Gerald Ross, Linn Ross, Henry Scouten, Richard Scouten, Frank Rooney, Frank Seeley, Richard Tansey, Ralph Coville, Felix Furnare, Elmer Gere, 1st assistant chief of the Department.

Oxford, N. Y. Hook & Ladder Co. Inc. Builds Unique Trailer Ladder Truck

THE Oxford Hook & Ladder Co., Inc., Oxford, N. Y., has a long and honorable history dating back to June 25, 1878. About a year ago the company found that its ladder truck which had been in use for fifteen years was unfit for further service. The village board decided that it did not have the means to provide a new ladder truck at that time. Accordingly, the company decided to draw upon its own talent and construct a new trailer type unit.

Lieutenant Harold Gray of the company was elected superintendent and head mechanic for the project. The company took responsibility for financing the work and the truck was built at a cost of about $1,000. The Village Board provided a new 100 hp motor to replace the old 75 hp motor in the tractor of the truck. John R. Shepler donated a fifth wheel assembly for the trailer and a heavy duty steering mechanism for the tiller seat. The firemen built the trailer "from the ground up." They drew their own blueprints, did the welding, carpenter and electrical work.

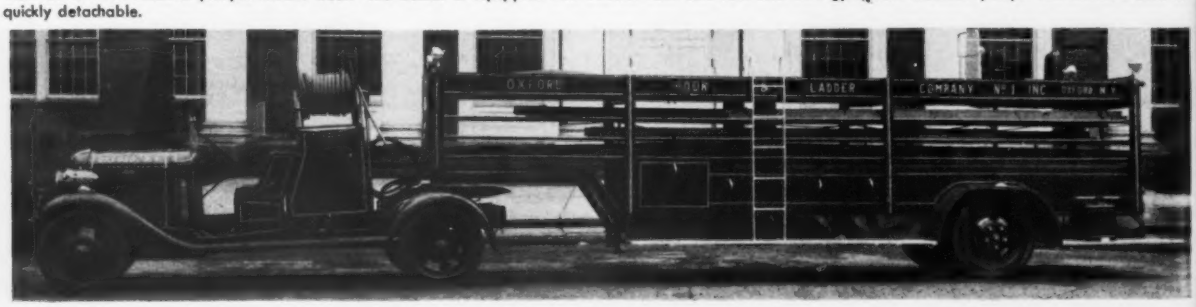
Chief G. C. Bartlett of the Oxford Fire Department explains that the unique feature about this piece of apparatus is that the ladder trailer can be quickly detached from the tractor at the scene of a fire, leaving the ladders and floodlights in a convenient location, while the tractor serves as an auxiliary pumping unit. The tractor has been provided with a 500 gpm front mounted pump. It carries a booster tank and reel. At a rural fire the tractor can be sent to a brook to pump while the ladder company equipment remains at the fire. In addition to ladders and lighting plant, the ladder trailer carries complete first aid equipment including an inhalator, plus usual ladder company tools and appliances. In addition, the trailer has hose compartments containing 600 ft. 2½-in. hose and 400 ft. 1½-in. hose.

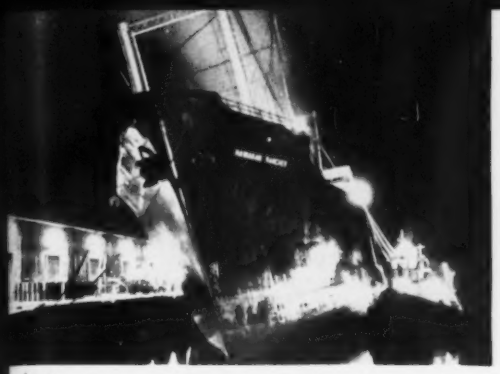
The Oxford Hook & Ladder Co., Inc., has 62 members who went into debt personally in order that the company's long record of service to the community might be maintained. Fortunately, several persons contributed, at cost, needed items such as tires. The company has an active ladies auxiliary which has contributed many furnishings for the new quarters which the company occupied in 1943. These include such items as drapes and venetian blinds for the windows, a stove, two coffee makers, and a piano.

The Village of Oxford with 1800 population has four fire companies and a squad. The total membership is 165 men. The department has two 500 gpm pumpers, two small pumpers, a chemical truck which is to be replaced by a high pressure job, and a squad wagon. The department owns a Silsby Steam fire engine which is now for sale as is a hand engine which dates back to the early 19th century. This hand engine, bearing the name plate "Lady Washington," was built in Hudson, N. Y., and did service in the City of Brookline.

Chief Howard C. Bartlett, who joined the department in 1908, is one of the best loved volunteer chiefs of New York State, last year completed twenty-five years as head of the Oxford Fire Department. This occasion was celebrated with a "silver anniversary dinner" given by the citizens of Oxford at the Oxford Academy and attended by a number of leaders of the volunteer fire service including President Arthur M. Hefner of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York. Main speaker was Levi L. Rogers, Superintendent of the Volunteer Firemen's Home at Hudson. Mayor Vernon L. Spencer made the presentation to Chief Bartlett of a Hamilton watch, a gift from the friends and organizations sponsoring the dinner. Chief Bartlett is also president of the Chenango County Firemen's Association.

View of new combination pumper-ladder truck. The tractor is equipped with booster tank and reel and 500 gpm front mounted pump. The ladder trailer is quickly detachable.





Acme

Wide World

Glen Perrin's

Wide World

Newsworthy Fires

→ **Rock Falls, Wis. Nov. 21, 1949**
Five children were burned to death in this farm dwelling fire.

← **Alameda, Calif. Dec. 2, 1949**
The S.S. *Hawaiian Rancher* took fire at sea when heat from welding ignited wall board cargo made from sugar cane. Met by the Oakland fireboat and escorted to port the fire was extinguished by Oakland and Alameda firemen. Loss estimated: $250,000.

→ **Norman, Okla. Dec. 3, 1949**
Three students died in these University of Oklahoma dormitories, of 2-story high, plywood construction with a single fire area 400 x 400 ft. without automatic fire detection equipment or fire barriers. The structures, former naval officer barracks leased from the U. S. Government, housed 349 men students.

← **Los Angeles County, Calif. Nov. 1, 1949**
Ten homes were destroyed and several thousand acres of brush were burned over by wind driven flames. Los Angeles County and Ventura County firemen brought the blaze under control.

→ **Chicago, Ill. Nov. 16, 1949**
Being next door to a fire department station did not prevent a four alarm blaze in this paper box and carton factory lacking automatic sprinkler protection.

← **Pocatello, Ida. Nov. 25, 1949**
Damage to this 1,500,000 bushel grain mill and elevator was estimated at $200,000 after this general alarm fire. Note how flames burst out close to men on aerial ladder.

→ **Seymore, Ind. Nov. 20, 1949**
This $500,000 blaze started in a Chevrolet agency, destroyed 30 cars and spread to a feed and grain store, a warehouse, and a grain elevator. Seymore's old pumper broke down during the fire but pumpers from Columbus and North Vernon were on hand to assist.

← **Cleveland, Ohio. Nov. 2, 1949**
This 5 alarm fire started when an acetylene torch ignited lacquer in which lamp shades were dipped. Seventy-five employees fled the estimated $250,000 blaze.

→ **Pottstown, Pa. Nov. 20, 1949**
This general alarm in a 3-story commercial building fire followed "explosion" of a basement oil burner. Volunteer fire companies from Reading, Stowe, Boyertown, Saratoga, New Berlinville, Linfield, Gilbertville, and Sassamansville assisted in fighting the estimated $250,000 blaze.

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In a recent big fire I personally know that 21 roof fires were stopped with INDIANS. We also used them to keep the hosemens' coats wet to lessen the heat.

We use them for inside and outdoor work.

G. E. Bancroft
Fire Chief

"The One Man Fire Department"

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Chester C. Woodcock
Fire Chief

If you, too, have used INDIAN FIRE PUMPS to advantage why don't you tell us about it? We would like to hear from you

"Savings Paid for Cost of INDIANS"

I think your INDIAN FIRE PUMPS are the most useful equipment on our fire trucks. They have paid for themselves in saving the cost of soda and acid and have cut our expense in half in amount of brooms needed. We have used INDIANS on houses, autos, rubbish, grass,...in fact all the different fires we are called to.

H. A. Roberstson
Fire Chief

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Fleck Bros. Ltd.
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Fire Protection In Montana

Continued from page 7

Butte	2,500
Glendive	500
Great Falls	2,780
Hamilton	20
Havre (Full time, regular daily inspections)	
Helena	75
Kalispell	296
Lewistown	1,566
Miles City	428
Missoula	4,040
Red Lodge	476
Roundup	84
Sidney	250
Whitefish	37

Building inspections for fire prevention should receive more support, not only from the volunteer fire brigades, but also from the fully paid fire departments. Some municipal officials and fire chiefs are already sold on the need for increased fire prevention inspections and other fire prevention activities because they realize that fire prevention is of equal, if not more, importance than fire fighting.

The larger share of the fire department's attention in inspections should be devoted to those buildings experience indicates are in greatest need of periodic attention. Mercantile districts and other high value districts should be covered by inspection at least every 90 days, and outlying districts twice each year.

The dangers of fire cannot be limited to any particular field or business but when hospital, hotel or school fires get out of hand, they are likely to be more disastrous than in other buildings for obvious reasons. Fires are occurring in hospitals at the rate of about 1,000 each year, nearly 3 a day. The average dollar loss per fire in hospital property damage is more than three times the average property loss per fire for all other occupancies. The recent tragedy in the St. Anthony Hospital at Effingham, Illinois, which fire took the lives of 73 persons, is still fresh in the pubilc mind.

All hospitals throughout the country should be equipped with a standard automatic sprinkler system. The present fire protection facilities at the Montana State Hospital at Warm Springs are inadequate to cope with any large fire, and automatic sprinklers should be installed throughout the buildings used by patients or inmates at the Montana State Hospital.

A large part of the public relations job of the fire department is to develop an understanding of fire dangers on the part of citizens and secure their cooperation in maintaining safe conditions. Safe conditions cannot be maintained by ordinance or law, without public

recognition for the reasonableness and necessity of the requirement set forth in the ordinance or law.

Local fire prevention committees should be established in every city or community, and the fire departments actively working with such committees, to carry out fire prevention and clean-up campaigns, promoting campaigns to secure the removal of dilapidated buildings, supporting the adoption of modern building codes and fire prevention ordinances, studying the structural conditions of the city from the standpoint of fire control and of increasing the protection of hazardous buildings and blocks, and promoting campaigns to secure additional fire apparatus and equipment as needed.

The city of Billings stands out as a "shining" example of what can be done through constructive work. Over a period of many years, Billings had a very bad loss record, and in that city the fire department has been strengthened by adding new men, constructing a new fire station, improving the existing fire stations, the purchase of new equipment, the fire alarm system rehabilitated, extensions made to water supply system, adoption of sound building and fire prevention ordinances, and the training program for firemen expanded with fire prevention methods greatly improved.

The fire service of Montana is progressing through a fireman training program established in conjunction with the State Department of Public Instructions and the support of State Fire Marshal. During 1948 an estimated 800 firemen participated in courses affiliated with firemen's training programs in some 40 Montana cities, towns and fire districts reporting their activities and conferences.

The national per capita fire loss for the year 1948 was $4.87. The long-time fire loss record for Montana is far better than the national average, which is definite proof of the value of the fire service and fire prevention results. In 1947 Montana had the best fire loss ratio, according to premiums and losses, of any State in the nation, yet the total fire losses reported to the State Fire Marshal amounted to $875,041. The 1948 Montana fire losses totalled $1,353,467, almost $500,000 more than the 1947 fire losses.

•

Check List on City Cost

THE International City Managers Association, 1313 East 60th St., Chicago, has published a 52-page check list, cost $1.00, including fire protection suggestions as to how cities can cut costs. As there are many suggestions concerning the fire service, fire officials may find this a valuable investment.

Studies in Chemical Fire Hazards by Oklahoma A & M College

THE Oklahoma Engineering Experiment Station has published a booklet entitled "Some Studies in Chemical Fire Hazards," by R. J. Douglas and C. E. Thompson. The booklet is available on request to the Engineering Research Dept., Oklahoma A & M College, Stillwater, Professor Douglas (member NFPA Committee on Firemen Training) is well known to the fire service as director of fire protection training, Oklahoma A & M College.

The bulletin describes investigation conducted to determine whether certain combustible solvents or solids would evolve sufficient heat to cause ignition when in contact with an oxidizing agent. Some 424 tests were made. In 37 tests, violent heat reactions were observed, and in 27 others heat was dangerous.

The booklet describes test procedures and includes tables showing reaction of oxidizing agents with combustible solvents and with combustible materials.

Activities in Civil Defense Planning by States are Listed

THE National Security Resources Board, as the federal agency responsible for civil defense planning, last month furnished the states with a check list of activities which should be provided for in state civil defense planning programs. These were embodied in a Civil Defense Planning Advisory Bulletin issued by John R. Steelman, Acting Chairman of the Board and W. A. Gill, Coordinator, Civil Defense Planning.

The National Security Resources Board speaks for the President of the United States in connection with civil defense planning and the policy is being followed that states are expected to move in these matters. Many of the states are already acting. Some states have already made considerable progress without official prodding from Washington. This fact is recognized by the Board which has asked the states to furnish to the federal government, as soon as possible, legislative provisions effective in the various states which apply to the subject and the names of the state boards and executives who are handling the state civil defense programs.

Studies of existing and potential resources have been undertaken by some states and those included in the list issued by the National Security Resources Board are the following: water supply systems, means of communication when normal means have been disrupted, street and highway systems, transportation facilities, emergency shelter for evacuated persons, hospital and first aid facilities, fire fighting equipment, manpower resources.

It is particularly recommended that attention be given to intrastate mutual aid.

Information is also furnished to the states on various activities of federal government agencies which will provide helpful information. One of the most useful statements to which attention is called is the report recently published entitled "The City of Washington and an Atomic Bomb Attack." This is one of the first published official statements in which an attempt has been made to illustrate the type of situation facing cities under an atomic bomb attack. It is based on atomic bombs of the sort dropped on Nagasaki and it points out that a reasonable assumption is that each bomb does extensive damage in a circle 5000 feet in diameter. It makes the important point that the attractiveness of Washington as an atomic bomb target could be greatly lessened by dispersing centralized activities of government over a larger area. This important principle is the one which must be followed in effective civil defense.

The Civil Defense Planning Advisory Bulletin put in the hands of governors explains that various activities of the federal government will increase the amount of information available to the state authorities planning for civil defense. It reports that the Atomic Energy Commission is continuing to collect data on the effects of atomic explosions on men, animals, plants and structures. The bulletin includes two bibliographies, one of unclassified reports of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Manhattan Engineering District and the other, periodical and book material on the subject.

It relates that a board of scientists and military officers, organized by the Department of Defense and the Atomic Energy Commission, has been compiling an authoritative summary of the effects of atomic weapons. In addition, the Atomic Energy Commission is currently preparing unclassified papers of importance to civil defense which will be made available to states as soon as they are published.

It refers to the Department of Defense activity recently reported in FIREMEN in connection with an exercise known as "Operation Lookout" in ten northeastern states. This exercise was for the purpose of testing the aircraft observer organization.

Additional specific studies have been undertaken by various federal departments covering rescue of persons under conditions of wartime disaster, evacuation of urban areas, demolition of damaged structures, and the use, protection and restoration of housing and community facilities. The Board announces that it will keep the state civil defense authorities advised as this information is available from the various agencies of the federal government.

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Whenever you have a hankering for a cup of coffee—Nescafé* does the trick in jig time. Yes, Nescafé makes *perfect* coffee—*roaster-fresh* coffee—*right in the cup*. No pot, no grounds. It's instant. You just measure to suit your taste, add hot water (preferably boiling) and stir.

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More people drink **Nescafé** than all other instant coffees!

*Nescafé (pronounced NES-CAFAY) is the exclusive registered trade-mark of The Nestlé Company, Inc. to designate its soluble coffee product which is composed of equal parts of pure soluble coffee and added pure carbohydrates (dextrins, maltose and dextrose) added solely to protect the flavor.

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Friendship Fire Company of Alexandria, Va.

Volunteer Firemen Honor George Washington

IN honor of George Washington, on the 150th Anniversary of his passing, officials of the volunteer firemen of Maryland and Virginia laid wreaths at his tomb at Mt. Vernon, Virginia, on Wednesday, December 14th. The ceremony was in recognition of Washington's service as an active volunteer fireman.

One of the wreaths was placed by Spencer J. H. Brown, of Sandy Spring, Maryland, president of the Maryland State Firemen's Association, and the other, by Henry Lee Scott, of Alexandria, Virginia, president of the Virginia State Firemen's Association. Maryland has approximately 240 volunteer companies and Virginia 400.

Maryland State Firemen's Assn., Henry Marschalk

Virginia and Maryland firemen place wreath at tomb of George Washington at Mount Vernon. Left to right: C. Philip Heishley, Friendship Fire Company, Alexandria; Chief Lloyd Selby, Hampton, Va.; John Paul Jones, President, Arlington County Firemen's Assn.; Herbert G. Snoots, Arlington; Wallace Hicks, Secretary, Virginia State Firemen's Assn.; Chief B. J. Padgett, Alexandria; Henry Lee Scott, President, Virginia State Firemen's Association. Maryland State Firemen's Association: Spencer J. H. Brown, President; Ted C. Gardner, Secretary; Vincent A. Simmel, Trustee; G. Mitchell Boulden, First Vice President; Curtis C. Larrimore, Trustee.

The hand operated fire engine purchased by Washington and presented to the Friendship Fire Company.

Washington's deep interest in fire protection is attested by his purchase of a small, hand-operated fire engine in Philadelphia in 1774 which he presented to the Friendship Fire Company of Alexandria, Virginia, where he was a member. The little hand engine served the Friendship Company until 1849, when it was replaced by a much larger machine of latest design. That same year the original engine was disposed of to a second-hand dealer in Alexandria who soon sold it to another dealer in such goods at Frederick, Maryland. The Frederick dealer was about to break it up for junk when alert members of the Veteran Firemen's Association of Baltimore hurried to Frederick and purchased the machine for its historic value. The little pumper was displayed in the Veteran's museum until 1915 when it was moved to The Maryland Building in Druid Hill Park. In recent years, the George Washington pumper has been exhibited in the display room at the base of the Washington Monument at Charles and Mt. Vernon Streets in Baltimore.

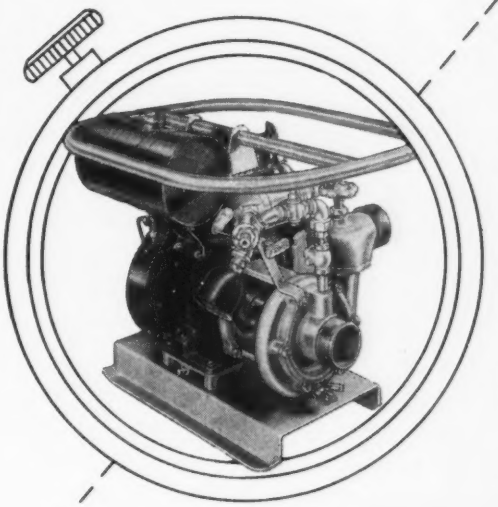
Arrangements for the memorial ceremony were directed by Henry Marschalk of Takoma Park, Maryland, chairman of the Historical Committee of the Maryland State Firemen's Association.

1950 Fire Protection and Accident Prevention Year Book

THE 1950 Fire Prevention and Accident Prevention Year Book, 364 pp., edited by Geoffrey F. D. Pratt, has been published by the Fire Protection and Accident Prevention Review, Benn Brothers, Ltd., Bouverie House, Fleet Street, London, E. C.4. The price is but 10 shillings, 6 pence, postpaid. With much new material added, this is one of the most complete and interesting publications available to fire officials and fire brigades in the areas of the British Commonwealth and contains much that is worthy of attention in American fire departments.

The book will be particularly interesting to Canadian readers, not only because a number of Canadian departments are inventoried therein but, because the hydraulic data in the book is based upon the Imperial gallon which is also used in Canada.

COMPACT as a watch!



THE compactness of this 3XC booster pump makes it easy to carry on your truck any place.

Delivers 300 GPM to booster tanks. Ideal for pumping out basements—handling dirty water without damage, thus saving wear on your expensive equipment. When connected to booster tank can be used to fight grass fires with truck in motion.

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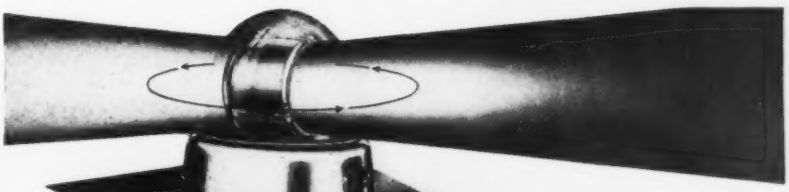

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Beacon Ray beams rotate through full 360°

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Rope Substitute for Fire Escape Proves Fatal

LAST month the newspaper carried the story of the death at Pontiac, Michigan, of a young woman who attempted to use a rope to escape from a small fire in the apartment building in which she lived. She had kept a rope in her room ever since reading of the Winecoff Hotel fire in Atlanta several years ago. When smoke from the small fire filled the hallways of the apartment building she threw the rope from her fourth floor window and attempted to slide down. She lost her grip and fell to a concrete driveway receiving fatal injuries.

The NFPA Building Exits Code has never recognized rope fire escapes. Only a limited percentage of the population (which includes women and children) are physically capable of descending a rope from any appreciable distance. Still fewer have been trained in the arts of climbing and sliding ropes which includes coordinated use of feet, legs, hands and arms, and protection of the flesh against friction "burns" that often cause a person to lose his or her grip and fall.

Firemen are trained to make rescues with rope, using appropriate body ties or hitches to lower persons in a manner least likely to cause injury, but when making a rope descent themselves, use a life belt to control the velocity of their descent. Many adult persons, not customarily engaged in heavy muscular activity are unable to control the weight of their own human body which may weigh from 100 to 200 pounds or more. Even a frail appearing woman weighs more than a bag of cement which is no inconsiderable weight if supported on a rope (not to mention the little matter of the strength of grip necessary to control this heavy weight). Persons who for years have not held anything much heavier than a knife and fork, should consider these facts and plan some other means of escape from fire when making their exit plans in advance. Also, by the time an emergency arises that might warrant its use the rope may have deteriorated.

* * *

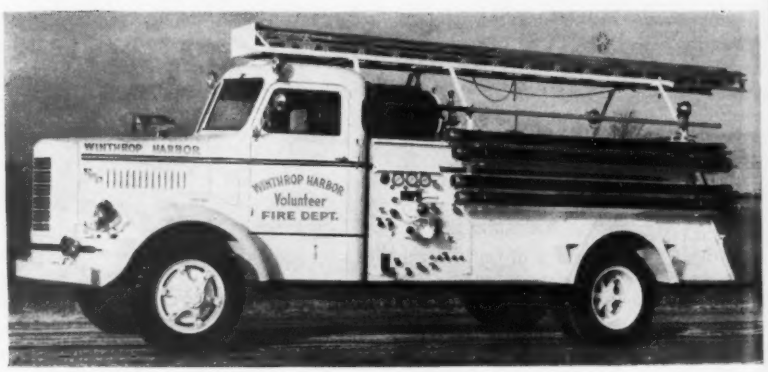
FDIC to Meet at Memphis

THE 22nd annual meeting of the famed Fire Department Instructors Conference is to meet at Memphis, January 10-13, 1950. The Conference is sponsored jointly by the Western Actuarial Bureau and the Memphis Fire Department. Last year there were 758 men registered from 37 states and D. C. Indications are that the attendance will be even greater this year.

Chairman of the Conference is Richard E. Vernor, Manager, Fire Prevention Department, Western Actuarial Bureau. "Dick" Vernor is Past-President and acting Chairman of the Board of Directors of NFPA and member of the NFPA Committee on Firemen's training.

The mid-winter meeting of the Firemen's Training Committee under Chairman W. A. Ross of the U. S. Office of Education will be held at Memphis January 9. On January 8, the Joint Committee on Evolutions representing the FDIC, the NFPA Firemen's Training Committee, and the International Association of Fire Chiefs will meet to discuss progress in preparation of the new pictorial training manual "Handling Hose" to be a companion volume to "Handling Ladders" published last year by NFPA under the sponsorship of this committee.

Winthrop Harbor Pumper Carries 45 ft. Ladder



Winthrop Harbor, Illinois, is proud of its gleaming white pumper newly built by the Four Wheel Drive Auto Co. of Clintonville, Wis. Equipped with a 500 gpm 3-stage centrifugal high pressure pump and a 500 gallon water tank, the truck also carries 117 ft. of ladders. These include a 45 ft. 3-section aluminum extension in an overhead rack, plus two 24 ft. extensions, a 14 ft. roof ladder and a 10 ft. attic ladder. This shows how a small department lacking a ladder truck can go a long way toward overcoming the all too common deficiency in ladder facilities.

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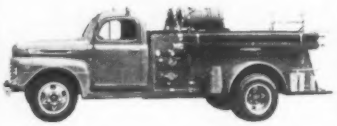

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Volunteer Fire Company Section

Membership in the NFPA Volunteer Fire Company Section costs $12.50 per year. This includes 10 subscriptions to FIREMEN. Additional fire fighters may be enrolled to receive FIREMEN at $1.25 each. Other NFPA members will be sent FIREMEN on request.

Every member receives a handsome membership certificate illustrating the history of fire protection.

THERE are fifteen new members in the Volunteer Fire Company Section of the National Fire Protection Association for the month of January. These companies have a total of 168 men enrolled to receive FIREMEN each month.

At the present time there are 1384 companies, with 20,789 men enrolled.

New members of the Section are:

Burns Lake Vol. Fire Brigade, Burns Lake, B. C.
Carsonville Fire Dept., Carsonville, Mich.
Falcon Heights Fire Dept., St. Paul, Minn.
Fernie Fire Dept., Fernie, B. C.
Five Points Fire Co. No. 1, Richardson, Park, Del.
Florida City Vol. Firemen, Florida City, Fla.
Mamou Vol. Firemen's Association, Mamou, La.
Melfort Fire Brigade, Melfort, Sask.
Pittsfield Twp. Fire Dept., Ann Arbor, Mich.
Pioneer Hi-Bred Corn Co. of Ill., Princeton, Ill.
Quasqueton Fire Dept., Quasqueton, Iowa
Ramsey Fire Dept., Ramsey, N. J.
St. John Fire Dept., St. John, Wash.
Smithers Fire Dept., Smithers, W. Va.
Worthing Fire Dept., Worthing, S. Dak.

VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY SECTION MEMBERSHIP

($12.50 annual dues) Eligible:

(1) all bona fide volunteer fire organizations in any community.

(2) all fire departments and companies in communities of less than 25,000 population.

(3) all industrial fire brigades.

Member companies receive ten copies of FIREMEN magazine each month, mailed to the homes of individual firemen. Beyond the ten, additional copies of FIREMEN cost $1.25 per year.

Volunteer Fire Company Section members receive at their headquarters, one copy of all publications sent to NFPA individual associate members.

INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

($12.50 annual dues) Eligible:

Individual fire departments, officers, firemen, and others interested in fire safety. NFPA associate members in the fire service receive: one copy of FIREMEN magazine monthly, the NFPA Quarterly, the monthly Fire News, technical standards, popular bulletins and posters.

All associate members have one vote in Association affairs.

"He hates to get up until the last minute!"

Water Shortage May Bring Added Fire Danger

As recently pointed out in the press by NFPA General Manager Percy Bugbee, the East Coast drought could have a disastrous effect on fire protection in many areas of New York, New Jersey and New England this winter. Fire departments should consult with water officials in setting up local emergency fire defense plans. A reduction in water pressures, reportedly proposed by some water officials as a means of reducing domestic consumption, may deprive automatic fire sprinkler systems, building standpipe hose systems, and public fire hydrants of effective pressures.

While fire flow demands comprise a smaller percentage of water consumption in big cities, a large fire could conceivably put a disastrous drain on the reduced water reserves of many small communities. Fire departments should reconsider many of the wartime emergency plans for coping with the water shortage, including provision of auxiliary tank trucks carrying 1½-in. hose, cisterns, drafting basins, and other emergency supplies (see FIREMEN for February 1949, page 16). In critical areas adequate supplies of 3-in. hose (with 2½-in. couplings) should be obtained immediately to permit relaying of water over long distances and from adjoining water systems in an emergency. This size hose has nearly twice the efficiency for this purpose as the ordinary 2½-in. hose (see FIREMEN for May 1949, page 13). Pumpers should be connected to sprinkler systems at every fire in sprinklered buildings. Where sprinkler systems lack fire department connections these should be installed immediately and auxiliary pumps necessary to boost the pressure should be provided.

Progressive Volunteer Fire Service in Mack, Ohio

Continued from page 9

cutters as well as salvage equipment. While Cincinnati's thread is quite generally used in the vicinity, both Cincinnati and National Standard threaded fittings are carried.

Last spring, a GM chassis was bought and outfitted with an all-steel body built by the firemen as there are, among the members, several sheet metal workers and welders, as well as several professional auto body painters. This No. 2 Truck will carry a 500 gpm single stage centrifugal pump driven by an individual motor, and equipped similar to the No. 1 truck. In addition it will have a portable pump and 2500 watt lighting plant.

As a means of financial support, an annual picnic is sponsored by the department around Decoration Day. A four-day summer festival is held during the last week in July and a turkey raffle is conducted a few days before Thanksgiving. The public is very cooperative on these occasions and substantial sums are raised. In addition to the revenue received from these affairs, the department is paid by the township by reason of a contract to furnish fire protection on a fixed fee per run basis.

Teamwork, discipline and harmony have done much to make the Mack Volunteer Fire Department what it is today. All real estate, apparatus, and other equipment in possession of the department has been paid for in full. Future income, aside from operating expenses, can be used for expanding the facilities of the department.

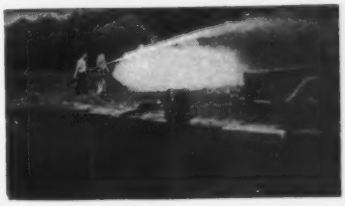
New Truck for Accokeek, Maryland, Volunteers

The volunteer fire department of Accokeek, in Prince Georges County, Maryland, has a new tank-pumper built by the American Fire Apparatus Company of Battle Creek, Michigan, on an International chassis. The truck carries 600 gallons of water and is equipped with two reels of high pressure hose which may be operated simultaneously with a 1½-in. low pressure fog stream. The pump is the new Barton-American 500 gpm centrifugal pump having both high and low pressure impellers driven by individual gear trains which can be operated either separately or simultaneously. In a demonstration at the 1949 Maryland Fire School, this pumper delivered 1040 gpm from a hydrant and 649 gpm drafting from the cistern, both at low motor speeds.

FIGHT FIRES 3 WAYS with a HALE FZZ!

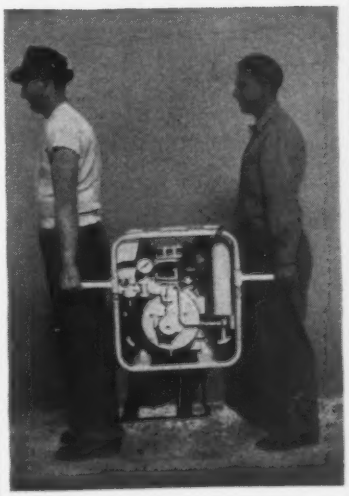
With a ready-for-use Hale FZZ you can fight fires not only with solid stream and/or fog, but also with *foam — a valuable weapon against gasoline truck fires.

The easily portable FZZ can be mounted in any apparatus, making it possible to fight fires while apparatus is in motion, using booster tank for source of water. CAPACITY 60 G.P.M. at 90 lbs. pressure; 150 G.P.M. at 30 lbs. pressure; ample reserve capacity.



Above—FZZ pumping solid stream and fog.

***Above—FZZ Pumping Foam. (Foam Proportioner built in if specified).**

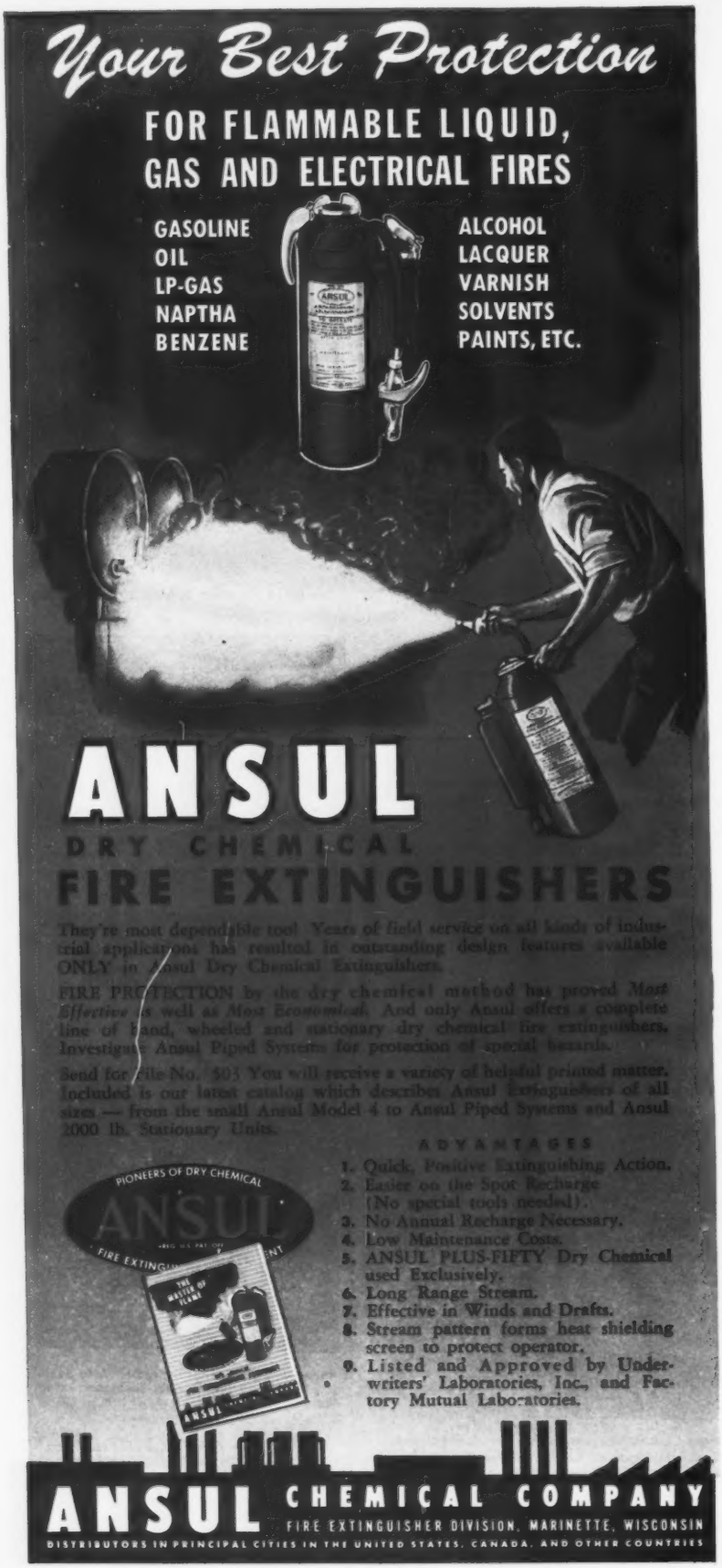


Above—FZZ in carrying frame. Also available mounted on rubber-cushioned steel channels or on truck-type wheels.

Write today for FZZ FOLDER to:

HALE FIRE PUMP COMPANY
CONSHOHOCKEN, PA.

Fire Pumps in All Standard Capacities


Your Best Protection
FOR FLAMMABLE LIQUID, GAS AND ELECTRICAL FIRES
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VARNISH
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FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
They're most dependable tool. Years of field service on all kinds of industrial applications has resulted in outstanding design features available ONLY in Ansul Dry Chemical Extinguishers.
FIRE PROTECTION by the dry chemical method has proved Most Effective as well as Most Economical. And only Ansul offers a complete line of hand, wheeled and stationary dry chemical fire extinguishers. Investigate Ansul Piped Systems for protection of special hazards.
Send for File No. 503 You will receive a variety of helpful printed matter. Included is our latest catalog which describes Ansul Extinguishers of all sizes — from the small Ansul Model 4 to Ansul Piped Systems and Ansul 2000 lb. Stationary Units.
ADVANTAGES
1. Quick, Positive Extinguishing Action.
2. Easier on the Spot Recharge (No special tools needed).
3. No Annual Recharge Necessary.
4. Low Maintenance Costs.
5. ANSUL PLUS-FIFTY Dry Chemical used Exclusively.
6. Long Range Stream.
7. Effective in Winds and Drafts.
8. Stream pattern forms heat shielding screen to protect operator.
9. Listed and Approved by Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., and Factory Mutual Laboratories.
PIONEERS OF DRY CHEMICAL
ANSUL
ANSUL CHEMICAL COMPANY
FIRE EXTINGUISHER DIVISION, MARINETTE, WISCONSIN
DISTRIBUTORS IN PRINCIPAL CITIES IN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, AND OTHER COUNTRIES

Insurance Credits for Training Program in Oregon

THE Oregon Insurance Rating Bureau has indicated to this publication that grading credits will be granted to cities and towns in Oregon which participate successfully in the Oregon Fire Department Training Program. No statement as to the number of credits to be granted has been made by the Bureau because of the fact that there will be a variance in the excellence of training afforded in one town over that in another. It is possible, however, to receive substantial credits for good training and effective fire fighting methods.

The mere fact that a town is participating in the statewide fire department training program will not insure the granting of credits. Fire departments which do a good job in conducting regular training sessions can be sure of a fair credit for their efforts. Departments which perform carelessly or intermittently in their training will find little compensation for their efforts in the way of rate credits.

Certification will be made to the Rating Bureau based upon the observance of the Traveling Instructors regarding the effectiveness of the training program in the various towns participating. If a department is doing a good job the certification will indicate it. If a mediocre job is being done that will be certified. Departments already receiving maximum credits for excellent training programs will not be affected.

This practical recognition of the value of participation in the Oregon Fire Department Training Program will provide stimulation to those taking part and a challenge to those departments not now operating under an organized training program

— Oregon Fire Chiefs Association, Quarterly Bulletin, November 1949.

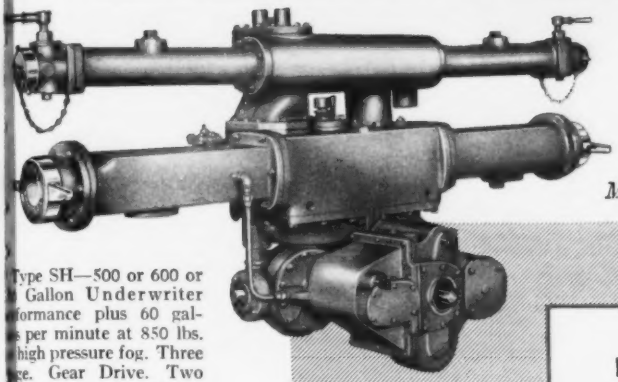
Fire Safeguards for the Farm

THE United States Department of Agriculture has just issued a new edition of Farmers' Bulletin No. 1643, Fire Safeguards for the Farm. This 32-page booklet with ten illustrations was prepared under the direction of Ralph R. Botts, Agricultural Economist, a member of the NFPA Committee on Farm Fire Protection.

The bulletin is completely up to date with discussion of such matters as rural fire trucks, water supplies including "wet water," laws regarding rural fire protection, woods fires, various types of fire extinguishers and other home fire equipment, structural factors contributing to farm fires, and discussion of causes of farm fires. Copies of this bulletin may be obtained by writing to the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. The price is 15 cents per copy.

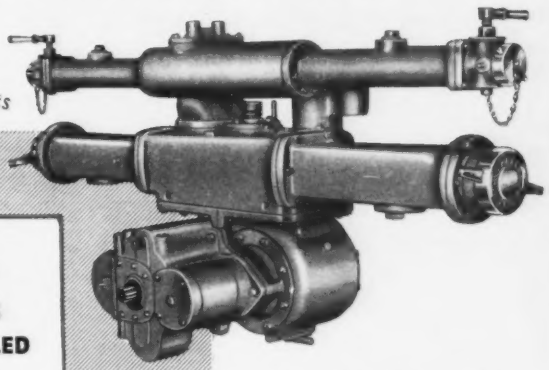
CHAMPION FIRE PUMPS

Write for Booklet on Fire Trucks and Pumps



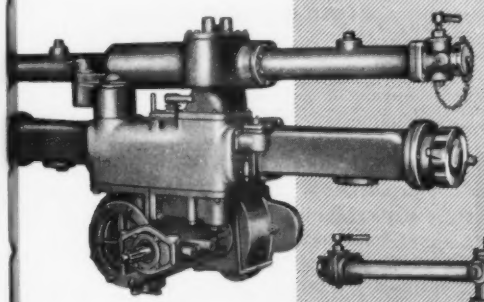
Type SH—500 or 600 or Gallon Underwriter formance plus 60 gal- per minute at 850 lbs. high pressure fog. Three ge. Gear Drive. Two tion inlets, 4", 4½" or Two 2½" discharge ves (3 on 750 Pump).

Midship Mounts



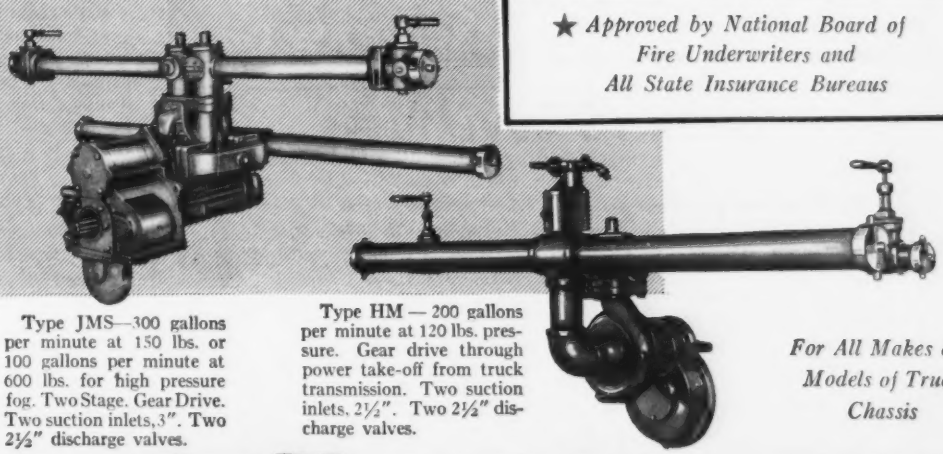
★ Type S—Capacities 500-600-750 gallons per minute at 120 lbs. pressure. Two Stage. Gear Drive. Two suction inlets, 4", 4½" or 5". Two 2½" discharge valves. (3 on 750 Pumps).

DARLEY CHAMPIONS ARE UNEXCELLED FOR PERFORMANCE STAMINA ENGINEERING



★ Type M — Capacities 400-500 gallons at 120 lbs. Gear Drive. Two suction inlets, 3½" or 4". Two 2½" discharge valves.

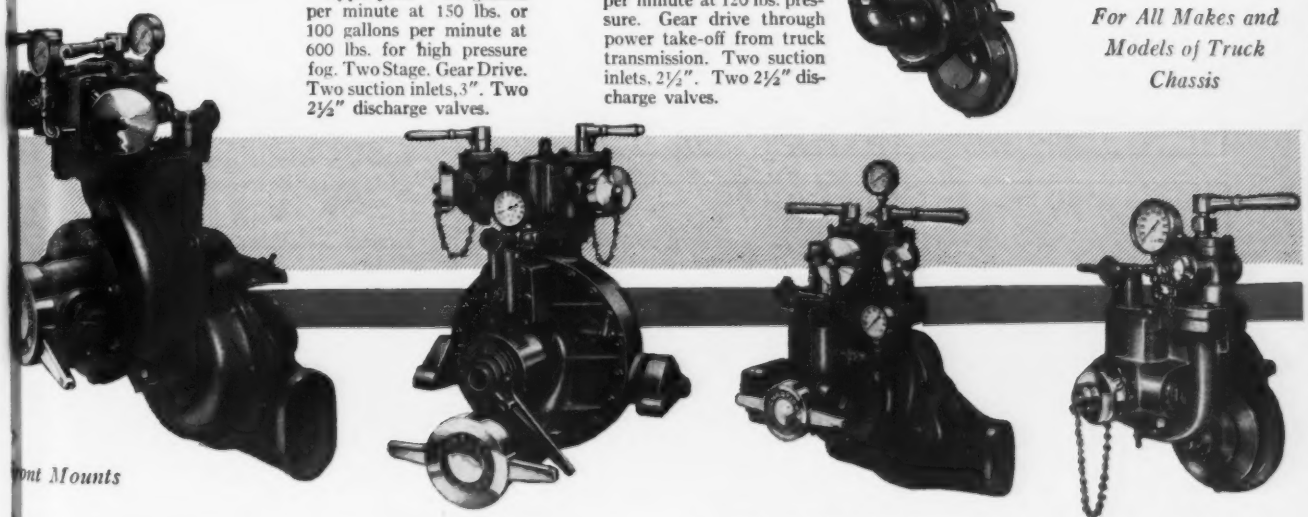
★ *Approved by National Board of Fire Underwriters and All State Insurance Bureaus*



Type JMS—300 gallons per minute at 150 lbs. or 100 gallons per minute at 600 lbs. for high pressure fog. Two Stage. Gear Drive. Two suction inlets, 3". Two 2½" discharge valves.

Type HM — 200 gallons per minute at 120 lbs. pressure. Gear drive through power take-off from truck transmission. Two suction inlets, 2½". Two 2½" discharge valves.

For All Makes and Models of Truck Chassis



ront Mounts

ype KF—Capacities 400-500- gallons at 120 lbs. Gear e. 3½", 4", 4½" suction. 2½" discharge valves.

★ Type F — Capacities 400-500 gallons at 120 lbs. Direct Drive. 3½, 4" suction. Two 2½" discharge valves.

Type JFS—300 gallons per minute at 150 lbs. Pressures up to 1000 lbs. Two Stage. Gear Drive. 3" suction. One 2½" and two 1½" discharge valves.

Type H—100 gallons per minute at 500 lbs. pressure. Gear Drive. 2½" suction inlet. 1½" discharge valve.

W. S. DARLEY & CO.

Established 1908

Chicago 12

The Original MIDWESTERN Yellow Striped Safety Coat Is Again Available . . .

for Men of Action!

Here's Protection and Comfort in Your Hazardous Work of Safeguarding Life and Property Against FIRE!

Modern fire fighting calls for *specialized* protective clothing . . . clothing that safeguards the fireman's life on every run . . . clothing that enables him to use his equipment to the fullest advantage.

Every Midwestern product combines the thoughts and suggestions of practical Fire Chiefs and firemen from every section of the country . . . and every purchaser profits from years of Midwestern research and experience. That is why the famous Mackinaw Coat and other Midwestern clothing have embodied in their design every feature necessary for the protection and comfort of firemen.

In our vast selection of crude rubber materials you will find a type of fabric suitable for your climate and needs. The softness and flexibility in the high-grade materials used are your assurance of long time service and comfort. Many Fire Chiefs are now including Midwestern clothing in their regular yearly budget and by placing your order early you can be assured of this adequate protection when needed.

For complete information have your Midwestern dealer show you our new garments now manufactured from crude rubber compounds. A letter to the factory will also bring you material samples for your inspection.

We now have available: White, Ivory and Brown crude rubber coats for Chiefs, Assistants and other officers; also all sizes short and ¾ length felt lined Firemen's boots for immediate shipment.

NONE GENUINE WITHOUT THIS TRADE MARK

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Manufacturers of the Famous **MACKINAW Coats**

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HOWE Fire Truck Equipment Meeting Every Service Since 1872
Centrifugal, Rotary and Piston Pumps supplied
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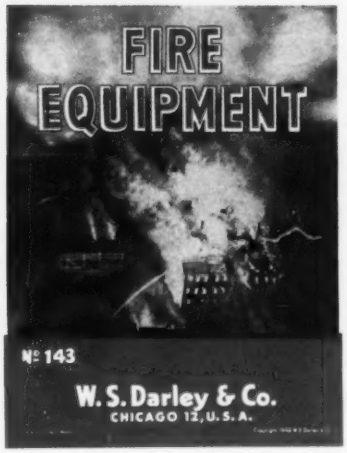
MANUFACTURERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS



1950 Catalog Available

W. S. DARLEY & CO., Chicago 12, Ill., has announced the 1950 edition of their catalog of fire fighting equipment. This attractive 100-page catalog contains reference to a very complete line of equipment used by fire departments, including such items as sirens, lights, nozzles, hose, clothing, first aid appliances, ladders, extinguishers, fire pumps, pumper trucks, and others. The catalog is available to fire officers officially requesting it.

* * *

New Vehicular Fire Extinguisher

THE American-LaFrance Foamite Corp., Elmira, N. Y., has announced a new 2½ gallon "Foamite" fire extinguisher. This extinguisher is of silicon bronze monotype construction, and is claimed by the manufacturer to have a high ultimate tensile strength. Producing chemical foam approximately ten times its own capacity, it is recommended by the manufacturer for use on tank truck and other large vehicles. Free illustrated literature is available upon request to the company.

* * *

FOR SALE

This Ford Emergency Car is for sale by the Lake View Fire Assn., Lake View, Erie County, N. Y. Bids must be received by Feb. 1, 1950. *Write now for complete information!*

Accessibility of PUBLIC FIRE ALARM BOXES Essential to Public Safety

These Newspaper Items Tell Why

THREE LIVES LOST

Aroused by Smoke, Neighbor Routs Residents from North High St. Apartment

Dialed Wrong Number

A man and two small children suffocated in a blaze which swept an apartment over the Dutch Cafe at 980½ N. High-st shortly after midnight.

It was discovered by Mr. and Mrs. George T. Collins, who lived across the hall.

Mr. Collins said he ran up and down the hallways of the second and third floors, routing 25 other residents. The burned apartment was on the third floor.

"I ran to a phone and tried to call the fire department," Mr. Collins told reporters. "But I was excited and apparently dialed the wrong number."

GAMEWELL
FIRE ALARM BOX

A fire tragedy averted

A woman set fire to the drapes in an eighth-floor room of the Ansley hotel Tuesday night, causing 14 pieces of fire-fighting apparatus to be rushed to the building, Radio Patrolmen R. E. Nickerson and Roy Fleming said Wednesday. Police charged her with being demented.

Considerable damage was done to the walls of the room, the officers said.

The officers praised the fire department for its quick response to the alarm. Three aerial ladders, six pump trucks, one light truck, a rescue squad, and three fire department superior officers answered the call.

The alarm was turned in by an unknown passer-by, who saw flames in the hotel room on the eighth floor and pulled a fire alarm box at the corner of Forsyth and Luckie sts.

—From Atlanta Journal

Time — the Vital Element

Time lost in sending alarms may result in loss of human life and great property values. The above extract from the Columbus, Ohio Citizen account of a fire in which 3 persons lost their lives is a striking instance.

Many similar instances of fires checked in their incipiency and serious losses averted by the prompt use of public fire alarm boxes occur daily but, the actual losses being trivial, such cases rarely receive publicity.

THE PUBLIC FIRE ALARM BOX —

REMAINS THE FIRST LINE OF

DEFENSE AGAINST FIRE

Statistics show that few, if any, cities have enough of them. We invite your inquiry.

THE GAMEWELL COMPANY

NEWTON UPPER FALLS 64, MASSACHUSETTS

IN CANADA: NORTHERN ELECTRIC COMPANY, LTD., MONTREAL

When Seconds Count... Quality Comes First!

GENERAL

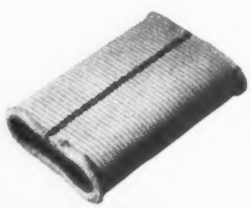
BWH

DEPENDABLE RUGGEDNESS

Your community never had a bad fire? The old fire hose will do another year? Maybe so. But don't push your luck too far. One rip-roaring blaze would cost plenty more than the saving you make by pinching on fire equipment.

With BWH Fire Hose, no time is lost in getting water on a fire. It's lightweight, handles easily on the ground or on ladders. Flat cured to fold quickly and compactly in the truck bed. And when it comes to toughness, you can't beat BWH Hose for pressure resistance, year in, year out, hard service and ability to take punishment

Look for the "General" trademark in the classified section of your phone book. Let this organization of Fire Equipment experts tell you more about the BWH 72-year leadership in the fire hose field.



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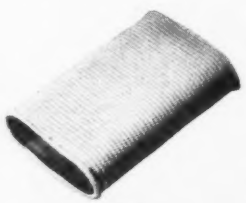
"BOSTON FIRE JACKET" HOSE

Double Jacket
Heavier, stronger fibers, perfect adhesion, smooth, friction-resistant waterway. Rates tops in every test!

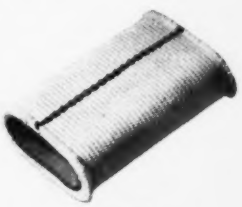
BWH
"PARAMOUNT" HOSE

Double Jacket
Designed for easy handling and long service on tough jobs. Ages well, withstands high pressures.



BWH
"MILO" HOSE

Single Jacket
For long, trouble-free performance in communities where a light service hose is adequate.



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"UNDERWRITERS" HOSE

Single or Double Jacket
Made in strict accordance with the National Board of Fire Underwriters' specifications. Labeled or unlabeled.

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